

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 /077 W
-----201231Z 100253 /41

R 191701Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1245

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

SECDEF WASHDC/ASD/ISA/DSAA

COMMANDANT NWC WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

COMMANDANT NDU WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE/ECJ-4/7 SA

DIA WASHDC//AH-8

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5733

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, OTRA, NI

SUBJECT: MAY 4-10 VISIT OF NDU FIELD STUDIES GROUP

REF: (A) STATE 043124, (B) LAGOS 5307

SUMMARY: NIGERIAN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS GAVE VISITING NDU FIELD STUDIES GROUP GRACIOUS AND INFORMATIVE RECEPTION DURING WEEK-LONG TOUR OF NIGERIA. HIGHLIGHT OF VISIT WAS QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF DANJUMA (REF B). GROUP MET BRIEFLY WITH EMBOFF COMMISSIONER GARBA, WHO ALSO ANSWERED QUESTIONS, AND WITH MILITARY GOVERNOR OF OYO STATE AND ACTING MILGOV OF KADUNA STATE. SUCCESS OF VISIT AFTER TWO-YEAR HIATUS ANGURS WELL FOR RESUMPTION OF YEARLY NDU VISITS AS FIXTURE OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND NIGERIA. END SUMMARY.

1. NDU FIELD STUDIES GROUP ARRIVED LAGOS AFTERNOON OF MAY 4,
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TRANSFERRED TO NIGERIAN AIR FORCE (NAF) C-130, AND FLEW TO KADUNA ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR EASUM AND DATT COL BROOKS. KADUNA PO BURKE HOSTED RECEPTION FOR THEM THAT EVENING. FOLLOWING DAY GROUP MADE COURTESY CALL ON ACTING MILITARY GOVERNOR OF KADUNA STATE, COL. IBRAHIM BAKO AND VISITED NIGERIAN ARMY COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE AT NEARLY JAJI, RETURNING TO LAGOS BY NAF C-130, THAT AFTERNOON.

2. ON MAY 6, GROUP ATTENDED MINISTRY OF DEFENCE BRIEFING AT NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (NIIA). OUTSTANDING PRESENTATION BY NIGERIAN NAVY CAPTAIN D. E. OKUJAGU WAS FOLLOWED BY LIVELY QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF, LT. GEN. T. Y. DANJUMA, WHO GAVE REMARKABLY CANDID PRESENTATION OF NIGERIAN ARMY ATTITUDES TOWARD SOVIET AND WESTERN ARMS SUPPLY AND TRAINING PROGRAMS (REF B). MEETING WITH ALWAYS-IMPRESSIVE DANJUMA WAS HIGHLIGHT OF NDU'S VISIT TO NIGERIA.

3. AFTER CONCLUSION OF ARMED FORCES PRESENTATION, STAFF OF NIIA GAVE NDU BRIEFING ON INSTITUTE AND ON NIGERIAN FOREIGN POLICY. GROUP FOUND DISCUSSION WITH NIIA RESEARCH ASSOCIATE ADEKUMIE AJALA AND OTHERS SO ABSORBING THAT THEY CANCELLED PLANS FOR VISIT TO NATIONAL MUSEUM AND SPENT ADDITIONAL HOUR AT NIIA.

4. ON SUNDAY, MAY 8, GROUP TRAVELED BY ROAD TO IBADAN, WHERE PRINCIPAL OFFICER HOYT HOSTED RECEPTION ATTENDED BY LOCAL PERSONALITIES, INCLUDING EX-POLITICIAN BOLA IGA. FOLLOWING DAY THEY PAID HOUR-LONG VISIT ON OYO STATE MILITARY GOVERNOR, BRIG. DAVID JEMIBIWON, WHO GAVE THEM EXCEPTIONALLY CORDIAL RECEPTION AND BRIEFED THEM ON OYO STATE AFFAIRS. GROUP THEN WENT TO IITA FOR INFORMATIVE BRIEFING, TOUR OF EXPERIMENTAL GARMS AND LUNCH. GROUP RETURNED TO LAGOS AFTERNOON OF MAY 9. DATT BROOKS HELD RECEPTION THAT EVENING WHICH ATTENDED BY CHIEF OF STAFF DANJUMA, BRIGADIER ASHIDA, BRIGADIER BAJOWA AND SEVERAL OTHER HIGH-RANKING OFFICERS.

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5. FINAL DAY OF VISIT, MAY 10, GROUP HAD QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, DR. J.A. NWOGWUGWU. THEY THEN MET EXTAFF COMMISSIONER, BRIG. JOSEPH GARBA, AT NIIA, WHERE COMMISSIONER WAS PRESIDING OVER ANGOLA-ZAIRE TALKS. GARBA TOOK ADVANTAGE OF BREAK IN NEGOTIATIONS TO HOLD 30-MINUTE DISCUSSION WITH NDU GROUP. HE ANSWERED QUESTIONS ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS (SOME ARE GOOD, SOME ARE BAD; GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO EXERCISE SOME CONTROL), SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE POSSIBILITY OF USING NIGERIAN TROOPS IN OTHER PARTS OF AFRICA (FMG) WILL AVOID THIS, SINCE IT COULD LEAD TO OPEN-ENDED COMMITMENTS), SOVIET MILITARY BASES IN AFRICA, (NIGERIA DOESN'T WANT FOREIGN MILITARY BASES, BUT OTHER AFRICAN STATES ARE FREE TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS), AND U.S. AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG (GARBA SAID HE DOES NOT REGARD YOUNG AS CONTROVERSIAL; YOUNG SAYS WHAT HAS NEEDED TO BE SAID; GARBA ONLY HOPES YOUNG REMAINS IN OFFICE).

6. COMMENT: NDU VISIT SERVED U.S. OBJECTIVES WELL. SUPPORT

WHICH FMG GAVE TO VISIT AND FORTHRIGHTNESS WITH WHICH HIGH
FMG OFFICIAL DISCUSSED SENSITIVE ISSUES AUGUR WELL FOR RESUMP-
TION OF NDU VISITS ON REGULAR YEARLY BASIS. VISIT PROVIDED
EMBASSY EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN
IMPROVED U.S. RELATIONS WITH FMG, PARTICULARLY NIGERIA'S MILITARY
ESTABLISHMENT.
EASUM

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